

Application No. 10/043,271  
Reply dated November 19, 2003  
Response to Office Action dated May 19, 2003

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-25. (cancelled)

26. (new) A vehicle frame comprising:

a support box including

a base area,

a front wall,

an upper wall limiting a front leg room above, and

side walls limiting the front leg room at sides, wherein one of the front wall, upper wall, and side walls includes an opening;

a fitting insertable into the opening so as to cover the opening completely, the fitting including

a support arrangement that is engageable with an edge of the opening to limit the insertion of the fitting in the opening.

27. (new) The vehicle frame according to claim 26, further comprising an outer vehicle plating unit, wherein the wall, on which the fitting is attached, is covered by the outer vehicle plating unit, and wherein the fitting projects into a space between the plating unit and the wall with the fitting.

28. (new) The vehicle frame according to claim 26, wherein the support arrangement of the fitting comprises a mounting flange which serves to reinforce the wall in the area around the opening.

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29. (new) The vehicle frame according to claim 26, wherein the opening has the same configuration as a portion of the fitting that is insertable into the opening.

30. (new) The vehicle frame according to claim 26, wherein the fitting is fastened to the wall via the support arrangement.

31. (new) The vehicle frame according to claim 30, wherein the support arrangement is fastened to the wall with an adhesive bond.

32. (new) The vehicle frame according to claim 26, wherein the fitting is held in place by a ring flange that is slidable over an end of the fitting that protrudes through the opening, and wherein the ring flange is supported at the edge of the opening against a side surface of the wall, which side surface of the wall is not on the same side of the wall as is the support arrangement of the fitting.

33. (new) The vehicle frame according to claim 26, wherein the fitting has a pedal.

34. (new) The vehicle frame according to claim 26, wherein the fitting is a steering console.

35. (new) The vehicle frame according to claim 26, wherein the fitting is a housing for electrical components.

36. (new) The vehicle frame according to claim 35, wherein the components are connected via electrical lines which are held in hollow channels in the wall on which the fitting is attached.

37. (new) The vehicle frame according to claim 26, wherein the fitting is an insertion module for a windshield wiper assembly.

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38. (new) A vehicle frame comprising:

lightweight panels having an opening;

a vehicle device insertable into the opening so as to cover the opening completely, the vehicle device including

a support arrangement that is engageable with an edge of the opening to limit the insertion of the vehicle device in the opening.

39. (new) The vehicle frame according to claim 38, wherein the vehicle device is a steering console.

40. (new) The vehicle frame according to claim 38, wherein the vehicle device is a housing for electrical components.

41. (new) The vehicle frame according to claim 40, wherein the components are connected via electrical lines which are held in hollow channels in the wall on which the fitting is attached.

42. (new) The vehicle frame according to claim 38, wherein the fitting is an insertion module for a windshield wiper assembly.

43. (new) A passenger vehicle assembly comprising:

a vehicle frame having

a support box including

a base area,

a front wall,

an upper wall limiting a front leg room above, and

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side walls limiting the front leg room at sides, wherein one of the front wall, upper wall, and side walls includes an opening;

a fitting insertable into the opening so as to cover the opening completely, the fitting including

a support arrangement that is engageable with an edge of the opening to limit the insertion of the fitting in the opening.

44. (new) The passenger vehicle assembly according to claim 43, wherein the vehicle device is a steering console.

45. (new) The passenger vehicle assembly according to claim 43, wherein the vehicle device is a housing for electrical components.

46. (new) The passenger vehicle assembly according to claim 45, wherein the components are connected via electrical lines which are held in hollow channels in the wall on which the fitting is attached.

47. (new) The passenger vehicle assembly according to claim 43, wherein the vehicle device is an insertion module for a windshield wiper assembly.

48. (new) A method for making a passenger vehicle assembly comprising:

providing the passenger vehicle assembly with a vehicle frame that includes a support box having a base area, a front wall, an upper wall limiting a front leg room above, and side walls limiting the front leg room at sides;

providing an opening in one of the front wall, upper wall, and side walls;

inserting a fitting into the opening so as to cover the opening completely; and

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engaging a support arrangement of the fitting with an edge of the opening to limit the insertion of the fitting in the opening.

49. (new) The method according to claim 48, further comprising making the configuration of the opening the same as the configuration of a portion of the fitting that is insertable into the opening.

50. (new) The method according to claim 48, further comprising fastening the fitting to the wall via the support arrangement.

51. (new) The method according to claim 50, further comprising fastening the support arrangement to the wall with an adhesive bond.

52. (new) The method according to claim 48, further comprising:

sliding a ring flange over an end of the fitting that protrudes through the opening;

supporting the ring flange at the edge of the opening against a side surface of the wall, which side surface of the wall is not on the same side of the wall as is the support arrangement of the fitting; and

holding the fitting in place with the ring flange.

53. (new) The method according to claim 48, wherein the fitting is a steering console.

54. (new) The method according to claim 48, wherein the fitting is a housing for electrical components.

55. (new) The method according to claim 54, wherein the components are connected via electrical lines which are held in hollow channels in the wall on which the fitting is attached.

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56. (new) The method according to claim 48, wherein the fitting is an insertion module for a windshield wiper assembly.

57. (new) A method for making a passenger vehicle assembly comprising:

providing the frame of the passenger vehicle assembly with lightweight panels;

providing an opening in one of the lightweight panels;

inserting a vehicle device into the opening so as to cover the opening completely; and

engaging a support arrangement of the vehicle device with an edge of the opening to limit the insertion of the vehicle device in the opening.

58. (new) The method according to claim 57, wherein the vehicle device is a steering console.

59. (new) The method according to claim 57, wherein the vehicle device is a housing for electrical components.

60. (new) The method according to claim 59, wherein the components are connected via electrical lines which are held in hollow channels in the wall on which the fitting is attached.

61. (new) The method according to claim 57, wherein the vehicle device is an insertion module for a windshield wiper assembly.